DISCOURSE,IDEOLOGY,AND POWER,IN BEHEADING BY MOHSIN HAMID:A SOCIO-COGNITIVE CDA APPROACH

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Abstract

This consider applies Teun A. van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Show of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) to Mohsin Hamid's brief story A Beheading in arrange to investigate how discourse builds, maintains, and challenges ideologies of violence and power. As a story that dramatizes the minute of execution by anonymous aggressors, the story gives a wealthy location for exploring how dialect reflects fundamental socio-political pressures and mental models related with psychological warfare and victimhood. Through van Dijk's tripartite system literary, cognitive, and social measurements the investigation distinguishes how etymological choices, story point of view, and typical expressions contribute to ideological surrounding.

At the textual level, the research looks at lexicon, pronoun repetition, usage and rhetorical methodologies that highlight the asymmetry between the killers and the casualty. At the cognitive level, the examination examines how the story guides readers mental models, forming recognitions of fear, frailty, and certainty. At the social level, the discourse is deciphered as a evaluate of radical ideology system and the broader socio-political conditions that normalize savagery and dehumanization. By mapping these levels, the consider illustrates how the brief story goes past a straightforward account of execution to duplicate and stand up to overwhelming ideologies encompassing psychological warfare.

Discoveries uncover that the story frontal areas the quieted voice of the casualty, destabilizes the double of us versus them, and evaluates the work out of ill-conceived power. The application of van Dijk's CDA system highlights how scholarly writings can serve as basic locales for analyzing ideology and power relations inserted in dialect. Eventually, this ponder contributes to the developing body of CDA in scholarly phonetics by appearing how fiction, like media and political discourse, capacities as a space where societal battles over meaning, personality, and powerare digressively ordered.

Keywords: Critical Discourse Analysis, Van Dijk, Socio-Cognitive Model, Power, Ideology, Mohsin Hamid, Terrorism, Short Story

Introduction

Background of the Study

The crossing point of ideology, power, language has long been a central concern of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). Researchers such as Fairclough (1995), Wodak (2004), and van Dijk (2006) have emphasized that discourse isn't only a medium of communication but a frame of social hone that both reflects and duplicates power structures. Scholarly talk, hence, can be analyzed basically to reveal covered up power and ideologies relations implanted in account shapes.

Mohsin Hamids brief story A Beheading offers a capable story focal point through which radicalism, terrorism and ideological savagery can be investigated. The story delineates the ultimate minutes of a man approximately to be executed by activists. In spite of the fact

that brief, the content is layered with typical implications, ideological battles, and verbose procedures that position both the casualty and the killers inside broader socio-political talks of psychological warfare. In specific, it dramatizes the work out of ill-conceived power and the hushing of marginalized voices, reverberating the broader post-9/11 worldwide discourse in which Muslims and South Asians are frequently spoken to through the focal point of savagery and radicalism (Said, 2012; Jackson, 2005).

Applying van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Demonstrate of CDA to this brief story gives an opportunity to explore how philosophy is developed through literary procedures, mental representations, and social hones. Not at all like Fairclough's three-dimensional demonstrate or Wodak's discourse-historical approach, van Dijk (2006) coordinating the cognitive measurement, clarifying how discourse impacts mental models, which in turn shape convictions and social activity. This makes his demonstrate especially pertinent for analyzing fear-based oppression talk. A Beheading, as the story works not as it were at the level of words but moreover at the level of peruser cognition, forming perceptions of fear, character, and victimhood. Within the Pakistani literary setting, stories managing with fear-based oppression and savagery frequently reflect the complexities of national personality, radicalism, and resistance. Stories such as A Beheading in this way gotten to be profitable locales of request for CDA since they outline how writing both reflects societal battles and evaluates ideological mastery. Analyzing this story through CDA situates it inside the broader battle over representation, meaning, and power.

Significance of the Study

This research is critical for a few reasons. To begin with, it grows the scope of CDA by applying van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Demonstrate to a scholarly content. Whereas CDA is regularly utilized to study political addresses, media talk, or approach archives (Fairclough, 2013), applying it to fiction illustrates how writing capacities as a location of ideological transaction. This contributes to the developing field of scholarly phonetics, where etymology and scholarly considers cross to analyze how dialect develops meaning in fiction.

 secondly, this study addresses the representation of psychological warfare and radicalism, subjects that are especially important in post-9/11 worldwide legislative issues and within the Pakistani socio-cultural setting. Fear mongering isn't simply a physical act; it is additionally a digressive build, sustained and legitimized through stories that outline casualties, culprits, and social orders in specific ways (Jackson, 2005; Huckin, Andrus, & Clary-Lemon, 2012). By analyzing A Beheading, this ponder highlights how fiction contributes to talks of fear mongering and permits perusers to fundamentally reflect on ideological controls inserted in accounts of viciousness.

Third, the study highlights the ideological measurement of scholarly representation. Van Dijk (2006) contends that philosophies are regularly duplicated through rambling procedures such as positive self-presentation and negative other-presentation. In A Beheading, the executioners quiet and the victim's inside viewpoint rearrange this normal structure, foregrounding the helplessness of the casualty and problematizing the ideological stories of control. Such examination uncovers how scholarly writings stand up to prevailing philosophies by uncovering their inconsistencies.

At last, this investigate is noteworthy for Pakistani and postcolonial scholarly thinks about. It situates Hamid's story inside the bigger talk of how South Asian scholars lock in with worldwide accounts of fear mongering and control. By illustrating how ideology is inserted

within the micro-structures of dialect, the think about opens pathways for understanding writing as a device of resistance and study.

Statement of the Problem

Whereas broad research has inspected fear-based oppression in media and political talk (Jackson, 2005), less consideration has been given to how scholarly writings develop and evaluate such talks. Existing CDA grant regularly centers on news reports, addresses, or regulation writings, subsequently dismissing literature's potential part in forming social cognition and philosophy. Mohsin Hamid's A Beheading is especially underexplored from a CDA viewpoint, in spite of its wealthy engagement with subjects of psychological warfare, viciousness, and control.   The issue tended to in this consider is the need of phonetic examination of scholarly writings that lock in with fear-based oppression talk, especially through the focal point of van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Demonstrate. There's a got to look at how accounts such as A Beheading digressively develop philosophies of control and savagery, how they shape readers mental models, and how they reflect broader socio-political battles over meaning and character.

Research Questions

- In what ways does Mohsin Hamid's A Beheading utilize discursive strategies and linguistic to build representations of violence and power?
- How does the brief story, through van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Demonstrate, uncover the ideological surrounding of fear-based oppression and victimhood at textual, cognitive, and social levels?

Research Objectives

- To analyze the discursive strategies and linguistic structures in Mohsin Hamid's A Beheading that develop representations of power and fear-based oppression.
- To look at how van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Show clarifies the ideological suggestions of the brief story at textual, cognitive, and social levels.

Literature Review

1. Critical Discourse Analysis: An Overview

CDA sees discourse as a frame of social hone, emphasizing the interconnection between power, ideology and language. Not at all like conventional linguistic examination, CDA does not center exclusively on linguistic use or structure; instep, it highlights the ideological measurements of dialect utilize completely different socio-political settings.

 According to Fairclough (1995) contended that discourse is both constitutive and constituted: it reflects social structures whereas at the same time forming them. Additionally, Wodak (2004) stated that mainly focused on the authentic situatedness of discourse, appearing how control relations are legitimized through stories over time.

2. Van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Model of CDA

According to Van Dijk (2006) included a pivotal cognitive measurement, proposing that discourse not as it were reflecting ideology but too impacts mental models, in this manner forming how people see and lock in with the world.   In this sense, CDA gets to be a methodological apparatus to uncover how mastery, disparity, and ideological control are maintained through dialect. Writing, as a shape of talk, is especially wealthy for such analysis since it frequently dramatizes social control battles in story frame (Simpson, 2004). Hence, applying CDA to Mohsin Hamid's A Beheading gives experiences into how fiction verbosely develops representations of fear-based oppression, savagery, and victimhood.

Van Dijk's commitment to CDA lies in his integration of the cognitive measurement, making his demonstrate particular from other approaches. Agreeing to van Dijk (2006), talk works at three interconnected levels:

1. **Textual structures (micro-level):** lexical choices, language structure, cohesion, explanatory methodologies.

2. **Cognitive processes (meso-level):** how talk shapes information, states of mind, and mental models in readers minds.

3. **Social context (macro-level):** how talk relates to broader structures of ideology, power and inequality. Central to his show is the ideological square, which recognizes the digressive methodology of emphasizing positive self-presentation and negative other-presentation (van Dijk, 1998). Through such techniques, overwhelming bunches legitimize their control whereas marginalizing others.

Researchers have effectively connected van Dijk's show to media writings, political addresses, and news announcing. For case, KhosraviNik (2010) stated that analyzed the representation of workers in European daily papers, appearing how ideological surrounding molded negative open demeanors. Essentially, according to Machin and Mayr (2023) emphasized how etymological and semiotic choices in talk naturalize ideological positions. In any case, there's less grant applying van Dijk's show to scholarly writings, which is where the current think about intercedes.

3. CDA and Fear based oppression Discourse

One of the foremost noticeable zones of CDA grant is the think about of psychological warfare talk, especially in post-9/11 settings. Jackson (2005) stated that the war on terror is as much a verbose development because it may be a military campaign. Through vital utilize of dialect, governments and media develop fear mongering as an existential risk, advocating uncommon security measures. According to Huckin, Andrus, and Clary-Lemon (2012) illustrated how talks of fear mongering normalize exclusionary belief systems by speaking to certain bunches as intrinsically unsafe. Inside this body of work, fiction has too been analyzed as a medium that reflects and evaluates fear-based oppression talk. For occurrence, Whitlock (2019) appeared how postcolonial fiction speaks to fear based oppression as portion of broader narratives of globalization and resistance. In any case, Hamid's A Beheading remains underexplored in this respect, in spite of its potential to demonstrate how psychological warfare talk is developed at miniaturized scale, cognitive, and large-scale levels.

4. Literature and CDA

Applying CDA to literature has picked up academic consideration in later decades, especially within the field of scholarly linguistics. According to Fowler (2013) contended that writing, like media talk, encodes ideology through linguistic structures. So also, Simpson (2004) stated that the appeared how stylistics and CDA can be combined to reveal ideological implications in story writings.

Research about have connected CDA to books, plays, and verse to reveal talks of gender, race, and lesson. According to Lazar (2014) examined women's activist CDA in scholarly writings to highlight patriarchal talks. These cases recommend that CDA gives an important focal point for examining how writing replicates or stands up to prevailing ideologies.

5. Mohsin Hamid and Fear based oppression Narratives

Mohsin Hamid is one of Pakistan's most conspicuous modern journalists, known for works such as Moth Smoke (2000), The Hesitant Fundamentalist (2007), and Exit West (2017). His works habitually hook with subjects of personality, globalization, relocation, and radicalism. A

Beheading, in spite of the fact that less considered, can be examined as a continuation of Hamid's engagement with fear mongering talk. The story gives a hint portrayal of execution, advertising perusers an aggravating knowledge into the mental and ideological measurements of savagery. By centering on the victim's viewpoint, the account shifts consideration absents from the perpetrator's defenses, instep foregrounding the human fetched of radicalism.

6. Gaps within the Literature

Whereas existing investigate gives wealthy bits of knowledge into CDA, fear mongering talk, and Hamid's fiction, critical holes stay. To begin with, much of the CDA grant on fear-based oppression centers on media and political writings, taking off scholarly writings underexplored. Moment, in spite of the fact that Hamid's The Hesitant Fundamentalist has gotten broad investigation, A beheading has been to a great extent dismissed by talk researchers. At last, few thinks about have unequivocally connected van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Demonstrate to fiction, despite its potential to light how scholarly talk interatomic with cognitive and social forms. By tending to these gaps, the current think about contributes to the areas of CDA, fear mongering talk studies, and scholarly etymology. It appears how fiction capacities as a basic location for analyzing ideological developments, subsequently extending the scope of van Dijk's system past ordinary talk spaces.

Methodology

Research Design

The display research receives a subjective investigate plan, established in Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). Not at all like quantitative approaches, which center on numerical designs, subjective plan permits for a more profound investigation of literary structures, rambling procedures, and ideological underpinnings within the chosen brief story. The investigate is interpretive in nature and points to reveal understood control relations, belief systems, and cognitive forms that shape meaning (Creswell, 2014). Particularly, the research utilizes Teun A. van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive model (1998, 2008) as the expository system, which joins micro-level literary highlights with macro-level social improves through the intervention of cognition.
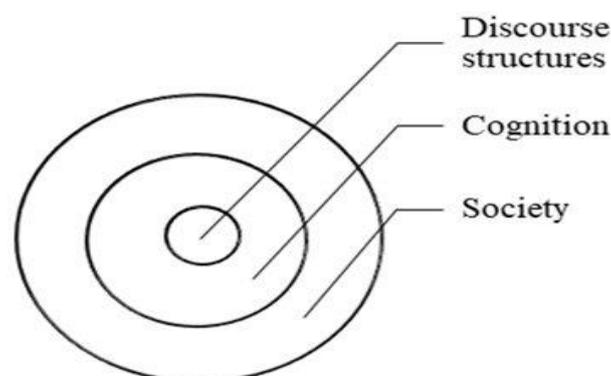
Van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Model (1998, 2008)

Sampling Technique

The examining is purposive, since they consider centers on a single scholarly content, A Beheading by Mohsin Hamid, which expressly locks in with topics of savagery, philosophy, and control. Purposive sampling allows the analyst to choose a content that's both relevantly critical and specifically wealthy for CDA (Paltridge, 2012). The brief story is chosen since it typically speaks to psychological warfare, victimhood, and control asymmetry, making it an appropriate case consider for van Dijk's demonstrate.

Rationale

The rationale for selecting Mohsin Hamid's A Beheading lies in its socio-political significance. The story allegorically depicts the talk of psychological warfare and savagery, giving a basic focal point to look at how belief systems of mastery and resistance are digressively built. Applying van Dijk's socio-cognitive CDA empowers the analyst to go past surface implications and translate how talk reflects and shapes shared mental models inside society (van Dijk, 2008). This approach moreover bridges scholarly phonetics and connected talk thinks about, demonstrating that writing could be a location of ideological battle associated to media and political writings.

Data Analysis Technique

Information investigation takes after van Dijk's three-dimensional socio-cognitive system:

1.Textual Analysis (Micro-structure) looking at linguistic highlights such as lexical choices, representations, pronouns, language structure, and explanatory gadgets that develop implications of fear, control, and dehumanization.

2. Cognitive Analysis (Meso-level) translating how the talk organizes mental models of the peruser, counting the victim's subjectivity, the perpetrators specialist, and the normalization of violence.

3. Social Analysis (Macro-structure) arranging the content inside broader socio-political settings, counting fear-based oppression, radicalism, and post-9/11 talks, to uncover how belief systems of mastery and resistance circulate inside society.

This layered investigation permits the think about to move from near perusing of the content to interpretation of cognition and at last to the social suggestions of discourse.

Tools and Materials

- **Primary Content:** Mohsin Hamid's brief story A Beheading.
- **Analytical System:** Teun A. van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Model of CDA (1998, 2008).
- **Supporting Tools:** Discourse analysis checklists adjusted from Fairclough (1995) and van Dijk (2006) to classify lexical and explanatory techniques.
- **Secondary Sources:** Insightful articles, CDA considers in writing, and socio-political studies of fear-based oppression and ideology in South Asian composing.

Data Analysis

1. Introduction to Data Analysis

This segment presents the analysis of Mohsin Hamid's brief story A Beheading through the focal point of Teun A. van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Model of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). Van Dijk (2008) emphasizes that discourse examination must coordinated printed structures, cognitive forms, and socio-political settings to reveal how philosophies are communicated and duplicated. The brief story, a first-person story of a captive anticipating execution by beheading, gives a capable location for looking at topics of power, viciousness, and ideology. By applying van Dijk's tripartite system, this investigation reveals how linguistic structures (micro-level), mental models (meso-level), and social settings (macro-level) associated to create implications almost fear mongering, victimhood, and mastery.

2. Textual Analysis (Micro-Structures)

At the textual level, van Dijk's proposes centering on the choice of words, language structure, explanatory devices, and discursive techniques. Hamid's story makes consider etymological choices to speak to both the powerlessness of the casualty and the verifiable specialist of the executioners.

2.1 Lexical Choices

The utilize of words such as knife, knees, blindfold, blade, ground inspires physical powerlessness and the certainty of savagery. These lexical things are stark, concrete, and physical, securing the discourse in a reality of substantial enduring. At the same time, the nonappearance of the executioners coordinate voices depersonalizes them, rendering them as shadowy figures of power instead of person human creatures.

2.2 Pronouns and Perspective

The rehashed utilize of first-person pronouns ("I," "me," "my") closer views the narrator's subjectivity and fear. The nonappearance of we or collective pronouns underscores segregation, improving the victim's distance. This linguistic choice upholds the reader's drenching into the victim's mental state, directing us to embrace his point of view cognitively.

2.3 Sentence Structure and Rhythm

Hamid utilizes brief, divided sentences in key minutes, mirroring the broken thought designs of a scared captive: I am bowing. My hands are bound. My eyes are covered. The beat mirrors breathlessness and uneasiness, creating a full of feeling encounter for the peruser. Then again, a few sentences are intentionally stretched, reflecting the victim's waiting mindfulness of time as passing approaches.

2.4 Metaphors and Symbolism

The act of beheading itself may be a capable representation of silencing the exacting separating of voice and subjectivity. The blade capacities typically as an instrument of ideological mastery, speaking to not as it were physical viciousness but moreover the concealment of disagreeing voices. In CDA terms, the allegorical surrounding reflects the control asymmetry between overwhelming and overwhelmed bunches (van Dijk, 1998).

3. Cognitive Analysis (Meso-Level)

Van Dijk's socio-cognitive demonstrate emphasizes the part of mental models and shared information in talk handling. Perusers decipher writings based on inside representations that connect dialect to social encounters.

3.1 Victim's Mental Model

The narrator's inside monolog develops a mental demonstrate of looming passing. His fear isn't as it were of physical torment but of the typical deletion of character. By utilizing contemplative portrayal, Hamid welcomes the peruser to adjust cognitively with the captive's mental state. This makes sympathy and strengths acknowledgment of the human taken a toll of ideological viciousness.

3.2 Mental Models of the Executioners

In spite of the fact that executioners are never given coordinate discourse, their ideological mental models are suggested through the act of viciousness. They epitomize a worldview in which murdering is legitimized as an ideological or political act. Van Dijk (2006) contends that such talks work by developing in-groups and out-groups. Here, the killers see themselves as legitimate operators of discipline, whereas the casualty is cognitively surrounded as another who merits hushing.

3.3 Reader's Cognitive Engagement

Hamid's moderate fashion powers the peruser to fill cognitive crevices. For case, the story never expressly clarifies the reason for execution whether political, devout, or individual. This study equivocalness compels the peruser to draw upon their claim socio-political information of psychological warfare, radicalism, and worldwide talks of savagery. Hence, the account actuates the reader's schemata (van Dijk, 2014), arranging the individual encounter inside bigger ideological systems.

4. Social Analysis (Macro-Structures)

At the large-scale level, CDA situates discourse in broader social, social, and political settings. Hamid's brief story can be caught on against the background of post-9/11 talks, psychological warfare, and the worldwide war on fear.

4.1 Power Asymmetry and Ideological Mastery

The beheading scene represents control asymmetry the killers have add up to control over the captive's life. Agreeing to van Dijk (1993), such asymmetries reflect the work out of typical control, where philosophies are upheld through talk and savagery. The captive's voice is decreased to a monolog of fear, whereas the executioners quiet symbolizes their supreme specialist.

4.2 Fear based oppression and Global Discourses

The account resounds with real-world talks of fear-based oppression. Beheadings, broadly circulated in radical publicity recordings, work not as it were as acts of viciousness but as digressive exhibitions implied to instill fear universally. Hamid's content, by fictionalizing such an act, evaluates how viciousness is utilized as a communicative methodology to duplicate ideological control.

4.3 Representation of the Other

The story dramatizes the othering handle. The captive, in spite of the fact that anonymous, might speak to any person who falls casualty to ideological savagery. The secrecy of both casualty and killers universalizes the act, highlighting how talks of radicalism develop adversaries and casualties in unique, dehumanized terms. This reflects van Dijk's (2008) declaration that belief system regularly works through twofold restrictions such as us vs. them.

4.4 Writing as Counter-Discourse

By changing a savage display into a scholarly story, Hamid produces a counter-discourse. Rather than normalizing radical publicity, he shifts consideration to the victim's inner world, reestablishing subjectivity to those dehumanized by ideological savagery. Writing, subsequently, gets to be a location of resistance, challenging hegemonic talks of psychological warfare that frequently center exclusively on culprits.

5. Dialog of Discoveries

The investigation illustrates that Hamid's A Decapitating utilizes rambling techniques that adjust with van Dijk's socio-cognitive CDA system:

- At the micro-level, lexical things, pronouns, and representations build a quick sense of fear and defenselessness.
- At the meso-level, the story locks in the reader's cognition, inspiring compassion whereas enacting broader information structures approximately psychological warfare and viciousness.
- At the macro-level, the story reflects and evaluates ideological control relations, situating decapitating as a digressive hone of mastery whereas at the same time advertising writing as a space of counter-resistance.

The transaction between content, cognition, and society outlines how belief system works not fair in political or media talk, but too in scholarly writings. By applying van Dijk's demonstrate, this examination reveals how A Beheading encapsulates talks of control and challenges hegemonic representations of viciousness.

Conclusion

 The critical discourse analysis of Mohsin Hamid's brief story A Beheading through the focal point of Van Dijk's socio-cognitive demonstrate has uncovered the complex relationship between power, ideology and discourse in scholarly writings. This think about illustrates that Hamid's moderate story isn't simply an anecdotal account of viciousness but a verbose development that epitomizes, evaluates, and destabilizes prevailing belief systems of fear mongering, fear, and specialist. By foregrounding the victim's awareness and decreasing the culprits to anonymous figures, the story uncovered the dehumanizing techniques of control and at the same time welcomes perusers to reproduce the ideological systems encompassing viciousness. At the textual level, the examination appeared that Hamid utilizes effortlessness, redundancy, and unbiased lingual authority to strip absent drama, driving the peruser to stand up to the stark reality of execution without story frivolity. The nonattendance of names and particular references universalizes the casualty, changing him into a typical representation of endless hushed voices beneath harsh control structures. This moderation, when seen through Van Dijk's system, underscores how printed procedures work ideologically, either normalizing or standing up to overwhelming control relations. At the cognitive level, the story shapes the reader's mental models by empowering sympathy with the condemned casualty. Through a confined story point of view, perusers are drawn into the mental state of a person confronting inescapable passing. This cognitive situating challenges the audience's biased schemata of psychological militants and casualties, destabilizing polarized us versus themes ideologies frequently strengthened in political and media talk. The socio-cognitive approach highlights how writing intercedes between person mental models and broader societal belief systems, arranging the story as a evaluate of radical talks that flourish on fear and dehumanization. At the social level, the investigation recognized how the brief story situates itself inside the worldwide talk on fear-based oppression and savagery, especially in post-9/11 settings. Not at all like standard media representations that frequently replicate hegemonic belief systems, Hamid's story stands up to shortsighted doubles and uncovered the mechanics of control that hush the marginalized. The story gets to be a counter-discursive act that studies both radical philosophies and the broader socio-political structures that permit viciousness to gotten to be normalized. In this sense, A Beheading adjusts with Van Dijk's statement that talk is both socially molded and socially forming. Fundamentally, this inquire about illustrates that applying CDA to scholarly writings permits for a more profound understanding of how writing takes an interest in ideological battles. Whereas CDA has transcendently been connected to political discourses, media writings, and organization talk, this ponder highlights the centrality of scholarly talk as a parallel location of ideological transaction. Hamid's brief story outlines how fiction can basically lock in with socio-political substances and give perusers with an elective focal point to deconstruct the hegemonies implanted in ordinary dialect. In conclusion, A Beheading is more than a story of violence it may be a digressive act of resistance. Through Van Dijk's socio-cognitive CDA demonstrate, this ponder has appeared that the story destabilizes prevailing belief systems, rehumanizes the casualty, and studies control relations that maintain viciousness. Eventually, this investigation underscores the potential of CDA

inside scholarly etymology and highlights literature's persevering part in addressing, standing up to, and reimagining the socio-political substances of our time.

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